

A VERY DIZZY STORY

Which a Fakir Has Palmed off on Outside Papers.

FRENCH EARTHQUAKE TESTERS

Said to be Conducting Dangerous Experiments in West Virginia—A Wild Tale That Bears Evidence of Truth on its Face—Experiments in an Alleged Natural Gas Field.

The following special dispatch appears in the Pittsburgh Dispatch and other eastern papers. It is an improbable story and is given for what it is worth:

NAUATUCK, W. Va., Sept. 15.—Last Monday as the Norfolk & Western westbound passenger train pulled up at this isolated station a couple of small, elegant looking Frenchmen stopped from the train, and, addressing a tall, pinky, green looking native, inquired of him the direction to the big gas wells situated a few miles below here on Tun river, near Warfield.

They employed this young man as guide and baggage carrier, and he has just returned from down the river and relates the following interesting, but startling news, which he was enabled to pick up from their conversation, carried on in French, of which he has a slight knowledge:

It seems that both of these gentlemen, Messrs. Paul Metz and Conrad Durand, of Paris, came over to this country secretly for the express purpose of experimenting in a novel way with some of nature's forces. They are well known writers for scientific journals in France. The cause of earthquakes is a problem which has created a great deal of discussion between them, and on which they have both different ideas.

NATURAL GAS AND EARTHQUAKES

Mr. Durand holds that all convulsions and upheavals are caused by large quantities of natural gas accumulating in caverns or natural reservoirs under the earth's surface, and that it is the explosion of this gas through ignition that causes the ruptures; while, on the other hand, Mr. Metz holds to the generally accepted theory that it is the gradual cooling of the earth's crust and its more rapid contraction than the interior.

Not long since these gentlemen received from a civil engineer who had visited these gas wells a letter in which they were described at length. They were told of the comparatively isolated situation, the nature of the soil, the geological formation and the probable supposition of a large reservoir, from which the gas was escaping.

On receipt of this information Mr. Durand immediately determined to try an experiment, the ultimate result of which may produce a convulsion, or an earthquake that will shake up a large area of this wild and thinly settled country, and startle some of the sleepy denizens into mental activity, if nothing more, or it may end in a "disco," as Mr. Metz says. Durand bases his theory on the fact that an explosion will certainly follow when a spark of flame comes into contact with stored or accumulated gases, as frequently happens in coal mines.

THE WELL DECIDED UPON.

On his arrival in New York he purchased a small magneto-electric exploder, together with several miles of small insulated copper wire. Arriving at the wells he decided to experiment on the first well bored, which is at the mouth of Burning creek on the East Virginia side. It is reported that when this well was bored the well auger, at a depth of 1,200 feet, seemed to drop into a large cavity, and the volume of gas was so strong that it blew the auger clear out of the well.

He will lower two wires twisted together with carbon points, so arranged on the ends that sending an electric current of great intensity through one wire will produce a spark of sufficient heat, as it passes from one point to the other in making the circuit, to fire the gas in the cavern.

After arranging and securing the wires in the well he will then string out two wires far up on old Mount Sterling, at the head of Burning creek. There he can get a good view of the situation through his glass. On some high projecting promontory overlooking the foothills far below he will locate his electrical instruments and prepare for what he hopes will be a successful termination of this scientific experiment. These gentlemen have carefully examined the territory, and with their charts and maps, feel confident that gas lies in a limestone cavern, running northeast and southwest, beginning somewhere in Southern Pennsylvania, thence through West Virginia, and extending probably as far south as Northeastern Tennessee. It has already been traced through surface routes, through Logan county, this state, and Martin county, Kentucky.

THEY HAVE PLENTY OF FRENCH GOLD.

Of course the natives living in the immediate vicinity of these wells are not aware of the contents of these preparations, or it is more than likely they would put a stop to them in short order. However, my informant goes on to state, Mr. Durand does not wish to damage their life or property if he can help it. So he is prepared to entice the people, whom he believes to be in the greatest danger, away from their homes with some French gold, and should there actually occur any damages to stock or property, he will pay for the same liberally.

The question that would now naturally arise is: Suppose the experiment proves successful and life is lost, and the two gentlemen get away in safety and back to France, what sort of an international question would be brought between France and America, since these two are going to try this experiment on their own responsibility and without any leave of license from this country or the property owners in this state?

While Mr. Metz does not believe that Mr. Durand will be successful owing to the thickness of the earth's surface over this gas belt, still he has consented to come over and assist his friend in every way possible. It was not their intention that the world, especially the people of this country, should know of the experiment until it was all over and they were safely out of the country. Even now, while they are stringing their wires on old Mt. Sterling, they are ignorant of the fact that the green looking youth whom they employed as a guide has given away their secret.

Every household should be prepared for emergencies, for how often, "like a thief in the night" croup or whooping cough may compass a dear child without warning and in a few hours place the sweet life in balance by a slender thread. Cough Cough Cure, promptly used, will avert all danger. Delays are dangerous. Sold by Alex. T. Young, John Klari, Wheeling, and Bowie & Co., Bridgeport, Ohio.

SATURDAY'S PROCEEDINGS

Of the M. E. Conference—Bishop Foster's Address to the Young Ministers.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligence.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Sept. 16.—The fourth day's session of the M. E. conference was opened by devotional exercises led by Rev. Darlington. At nine o'clock the bishop took the chair and called the minute business. The class of the fourth year was called and after their examination had been reported and acted upon they were elected to elders' orders; after this the class of the second year was called forward, those young men having been on trial for two years. The bishop proceeded to instruct them in the duties, responsibility and importance of their calling. The bishop's address to the young men who knock at the door of the conference from year to year is always regarded as one of the most interesting parts of the proceedings of a conference.

The bishop's address to-day was one of the finest ever delivered on an occasion of this kind. He started out by saying that the first requisite after saving faith in Christ was an education. He said: "I am glad that you here in West Virginia are having this advantage, for I hear that in West Virginia you have one of the very best systems of education in the country. Every minister is expected to and should be a gentleman in all that the term implies. He fills a sacred office and has access to homes and hearts that no other class of men can possibly have. Woo unto a church and community who have a minister in their midst who is below par. A minister should have in him many timber that will fit him for the best possible service in every place. What the people want is God's eternal truth and not more sound or noise of language. The Bible is the only one great book, rising above all other books, but it is not sufficient that you only read and study the Bible, for if you do you will not understand it. You need to read and study other books that will act as side lights, to help you understand the one book."

At the conclusion of the address the bishop asked the usual questions and the whole class answering in the affirmative, then were voted members of conference with the exception of one who was discontinued. A resolution to appoint a committee consisting of one from each district before whom all applicants for admission must appear, was passed. Rev. M. C. Mason, a colored minister of Savannah, Georgia, representative of the Freedman's Aid and Southern Education Society, was introduced and spoke in the interest of that work.

The campmeeting committee reported and it was ordered that fifteen trustees be appointed and they to make the final decision. Gov. MacCorkle and Col. Swann tendered the conference a flattering offer for a camp ground near Charleston.

Buckhannon was selected as the place for holding the conference next year.

FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

The Republican Text Book Now Ready for Circulation.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—The Republican campaign text book made its appearance yesterday evening at the rooms of the Republican congressional committee. It contains about 100 more pages than its Democratic contemporary, and, barring a few really inexcusable mistakes at the printing house in "making up," gives evidence of much more careful editing than the other.

A prominent and unique feature is a quotation at the head of each page throughout the work from some eminent publicist of other days or from congressmen and other public men of the present day, pertinent to the times and the questions in dispute, all printed in black-faced type that may not be overlooked. Curiously enough, the first quotation is from Napoleon, who is credited with the words: "If a nation was made of adamant, free trade would grind it to powder."

A quotation from the Pall Mall Gazette of August 15, 1894, reads: "Bradford kept quiet during the vicissitudes of the Wilson bill for fear of prejudicing the issue. Now that it is finally accepted, rejoicings have finally broken forth." There are numerous quotations from the speeches of Senator Quay, one from Senator Cameron, several each from Hons. John Dalzell, Thad Mahon and Marriott Brosius, of Pennsylvania, many from Rood and McKinley, and two from President Cleveland.

One from Mr. Cleveland reads: "How can we face the people after indulging in such outrageous discriminations and violations of principles?" and the other: "It has been the policy of the government to collect the principal part of the revenues by a tax upon imports; and no change in this policy is desirable." This is from the message of 1893.

One of the leading chapters is devoted to the Hawaiian question.

A very important chapter, also, is that devoted to pensions, in which the policy of the interior department is severely criticised and this includes the figures already fully given in these telegrams in regard to dismissals and appointments by Secretary Hoke Smith.

While every possible topic likely to intrude into the campaign, or which may be thrust into it with benefit, is carefully treated. Naturally the bulk of the volume is devoted to the tariff and the income tax and the weak spots in Democratic armor in connection with these subjects are attacked systematically with facts and figures which are unanswerable in regard to wages, prices and so forth.

NO BOUNTY PAID

To the Sugar Growers Since the Passage of the Tariff Bill—The Secretary Gives His Reasons.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16.—Secretary Carlisle has written a letter declining to pay any sugar bounties since the date of the new tariff act. Among other things the secretary says:

"The question presented for consideration is not whether the producers of sugars have or have not a valid claim against the government of the United States for the bounty which had accrued before the repeal, but whether, under the language of the provisions of the law, the secretary of the treasury now has authority to pay it. As no money can be drawn from the treasury except in pursuance of an appropriation by law, it follows that if Congress has repealed the appropriation made by the act of October 1, 1890, the authority of the secretary of the treasury 'to pay any bounty for the production of sugar for which bounty is claimed' was produced under that act, and the claims are made under that act."

"I do not think the word 'hereafter,' as used in paragraph 182, can be held to relate only to the 'production' of sugar so as to prohibit the payment of bounty only on sugars hereafter produced. The entire provision for the allowance and payment of bounty is repealed, and, in addition, Congress has seen proper to declare, in express terms, that it shall be unlawful to pay any bounty after the act took effect."

"For the reasons thus briefly indicated, I am constrained to decline to make payment upon any of the pending claims."

PEARY'S PARTY.

Unsuccessful in the Attempt to Cross Greenland—Return of all But Four of the Party.

Sr. JOHN, N. F., Sept. 16.—The steamer Falcon, Captain Henry Bartlett, returned here yesterday afternoon, bringing back the whole personnel of the Peary expedition of last year, except Lieutenant Peary himself, Hugh Lee, a companion, and Matthew Hanson, a colored servant, all of whom remain at Bowdoin Bay for another year, hoping to accomplish the work of the expedition, which is still left unfinished.

The story of the expedition is very thrilling. The first incident of note was the birth of Mrs. Peary's baby, September 12, 1893, a month after the Falcon left last year. The baby, Marie Anito Peary, came here safe with its mother. During October frightful storms swept over Falcon harbor, smashing the naphtha launch and washing away large quantities of oil intended for use in illuminating and heating purposes.

The various scientific observations were pursued all winter. The meteorological observations were most successful. These were taken by Mr. Baldwin. On March 6 the main expedition started across Greenland to Independence Bay, the farthest point north reached by Lieutenant Peary on his previous journey. The eight men, Lieutenant Peary, Enteklin, Astrup, Dr. Vincent, Lee, Davidson, Baldwin and Clarke, with twelve sledges and ninety-two dogs, met with frightful weather almost from the time of starting. After a week Dr. Vincent was so used up that he had to return.

The storms reached their worst point during the equinoctial gales, March 20. The party was then in camp about fifty miles from Anniversary Lodge, in a temporary house at the head of Bowdoin Bay. The thermometer dropped to 55 and 60 degrees below zero, and remained so for two days, while a strong gale buffeted the party. Davidson and Lee were both badly frostbitten, and Astrup, the Norwegian, Lieut. Peary's chief dependence, gave out from hardship. The dogs perished in great numbers and froze into solid blocks.

After the storm was over the whole party returned to Anniversary Lodge, where they left three sick men, together with plenty of supplies to form a base of operations.

Then the four healthy ones, Lieutenant Peary, Enteklin, Clarke and Baldwin, started again and continued onward for fourteen days. But the dogs continued to die, and those left were unable to drag the sledges and provisions. The party was so weakened by exposure and the time occupied in traveling was so long as to render it impossible to reach Independence Bay in time to accomplish anything. Consequently Lieutenant Peary decided to abandon the attempt to cross Greenland and returned to headquarters, which were reached April 20.

SATURDAY'S NEWS IN BRIEF.

Wallace G. Porter committed suicide in a Philadelphia hotel.

It is claimed the Beaver Falls water works appropriation is entirely too small.

The Sovereign grand lodge of Odd Fellows will be in session this week at Chattanooga, Tenn.

William Webber, who killed his father-in-law in Reading, has been convicted of first-degree murder.

Whitescaps in Brown county, O., made a general whipping raid Friday night, lasting until daylight.

The September term of court at Ridgeway, Pa., will not convene because the jury was improperly drawn.

Everybody in Beaver Falls is searching for little Edna McCreary, who failed to return home from school Friday. More arrests have been made of persons said to be implicated in the lynching of the six negroes near Millington, Tenn.

Samuel Ogilvie, a prominent citizen of Maxon's Mill, Ky., was shot and instantly killed by a negro burglar Thursday night. The murderer escaped.

Prof. H. P. McMichael, of the Fifth avenue school, McKeesport, was caught between a street car and a wagon and squeezed during the centennial celebration.

The three days' festivities in honor of the birthday of President Diaz and the declaration of the Mexican independence are in progress throughout Mexico.

N. W. Wheatley, a prominent business man of Brainerd, Minn., and treasurer of a building and loan society, is missing and is said to be a defaulter to the amount of \$20,000.

By collision on the Delaware & Hudson branch between Shenectady and Saratoga, about 3 o'clock Saturday morning, a freight train was wrecked and a brakeman killed. Disregard of orders was the cause.

It is said in Akron that Myron R. Kent, under arrest in Minneapolis for embezzlement and as an accomplice in the murder of his wife, is none other than William Pancoast, who, in May, 1874, stole \$30,000 from the First National Bank of Medina, O., of which he was cashier, and decamped.

IVORY SOAP



IT FLOATS

FOR TABLE LINEN

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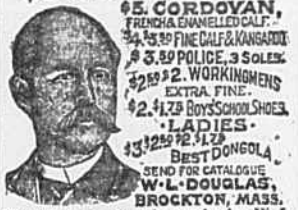
Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative: effectually cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession, because it acts on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels without weakening them and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance.

Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and \$1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, whose name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

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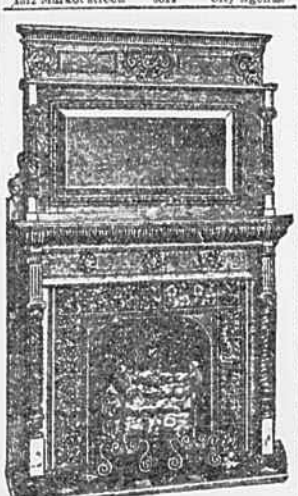
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Glimpses of America

are through Canada and the New England States. The trip is to Ottawa, Canada, for a view of Chaudiere Falls as they appear when the crown of the ice-king is upon them, then through Lachine Rapids and on to Montreal to participate in the Winter Carnival which is held there. Thence we journey to Quebec and take a glance at its heights and battle grounds, then speed away to Montmorency Falls, Lake St. John, and the river of Death, through a region of great scenic beauty. Our trip is thereafter southward to the Green Mountains of Vermont, by lakes, rivers, falls, farm-lands, villages, and thence on into the heart of the White Mountains. Here curiosity, awe, grandeur and beauty are in company joining hands and holding a wondrous region in their embrace; we travel to the summit of Mount Washington and look away to the sea, and around upon an army of mountains seared with vast chasms, garlanded with heavy forests, silvered with running streams, jeweled with sapphire lakes, wonder breaking upon wonder,

A Panorama

Glorious to Behold,

From the White Mountains our tour is to Maine, and thence to Boston and down the Old Colony Road by Woodworth's Home, where he wrote "The Old Oaken Bucket," and Daniel Webster's Farm, to the seaside haunts of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. We visit Plymouth also, where the Pilgrim Fathers anchored, view the monumental spots where they lie, repeat the old stories and enjoy a review of the historic associations of places and individuals which distinguished New England annals.

Part 25

Comprises the Following Views, 15 in Number:

Crawford House Notch; Mount Washington and the Cog-wheel Railroad; Squam Lake, New Hampshire; Upper Jackson Falls; Portland Light-house; Lower Gateway to Crawford Notch; Minot's Ledge Light-house; Prospect from the Summit of White Mountains; Cog-wheel Railroad; Monument at Plymouth Rock; Bridal Veil Cascade, White Mountains; Old Tower at Newport; Cliffs at Newport; Purgatory Chasm; Negro Head Cliffs.

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